

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A rope ladder facilitating escape from a building during an emergency comprising:

(a) a hook; and

(b) a ladder body comprising:

(i) a pair of flexible belt rails disposed in a parallel fashion and each fixed at one end to said hook;

(ii) a plurality of rungs disposed between and separately attached to said belts rails; and

(iii) a plurality of support attachments symmetrically fixed onto the back of said belts rails, said support attachment attached where said rungs are attached to said belt rails

2. The rope ladder of claim 1, wherein each said support attachment comprises:

(1) a base plate fixed where said rung is attached to said belt rail; and

(2) a spacer plate that articulates relative to said base plate via a pivot pin residing within a torsion spring which connects said base plate to said spacer plate, said torsion spring rotating said spacer plate until a stop along said spacer plate contacts a positioning limiting boss on said base plate, said spacer plate at an angle larger than 90 degrees with respect to said base plate when deployed by said torsion spring.

3. The rope ladder as in claim 1 or 2, wherein said hook comprises:

1           (1) a U-shaped hook body and two L-shaped hooks, said U-shaped hook  
2           body having a pair of first horizontal bars disposed about and attached to a  
3           vertical U-shaped element, said L-shaped hooks each having a vertical bar  
4           attached to a second horizontal bar, each said first horizontal bar having a  
5           plurality of holes and each said second horizontal bar having two bolts  
6           projecting there from and aligned to pass through two of said holes, each  
7           said L-shaped hook attached to said U-shaped hook body by tightening a  
8           butterfly nut onto each of said bolts.

9       4. The rope ladder as in claim 1 or 2, wherein said support attachments are provided at  
10      each said rung.

11      5. The rope ladder as in claim 1 or 2, wherein said support attachments are provided at  
12      every third or forth said rung.

13      6. The rope ladder as in claim 1 or 2, wherein said rungs are comprised of an aluminum  
14      alloy having a fire-retardant textile band thereon.

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